

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 07693 081701Z

70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-01 SCA-01 SY-02 H-01 L-02 PRS-01

SS-14 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 DRC-01 RSC-01 /046 W

----- 041075

R 081535Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5917

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 7693

FOL TEL RECVD FROM RECIFE, OCT 74

SENT ACTION IMMEDIATE TO BRASILIA BEING RPTD FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L RECIFE 0188

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS BR CPRS (MORRIS, FREDERICK)

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH AMCIT MORRIS

SUMMARY: DURING THE FOURTH MEETING WITH MORRIS SINCE HIS DETENTION, HE SAID (A) HE HAD BEEN THREATENED WITH FURTHER PHYSICAL DURESS IF HE CONTINUED TO COMPLAIN TO THE CONSUL, (B) HAD BEEN RECEIVING DAILY MEDICATED MASSAGES OF THE BRUISES ON HIS BACK SIDE SINCE NIGHT OF OCT 4, (C) HAD BEEN INTERROGATED CONCERNING ANY POSSIBLE TIES TO THE CIA AND HAD CATEGORICALLY DENIED SUCH TIES, (D) HAD RECEIVED ONLY A SLIGHT SKIN ABRASION ON RIGHT KNEEE FROM MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT, AND (E) HAD DEDUCED TO HIS SATISFACTION THAT HIS CELL IS LOCATED AT FOURTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN RECIFE. CUTS ON HIS WRISTS ARE HEALING AND HE APPEARS IN GOOD SPIRITS. END SUMMARY

1. AT 1100 HOURS LOCAL TIME TODAY (OCT 7) I MET WITH AMCIT FREDERICK MORRIS AT FOURTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN RECIFE. AFTER DELIVERING TO MORRIS SOME TOILETRIES AND A GIFT OF A FRIEND'S BIBLE, I ASKED IF HE HAD BEEN PERMITTED TO READ THE BOOKS I
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 BRASIL 07693 081701Z

BROUGHT EARLIER. WHEN HE ANSWERED NEGATIVELY, I ASKED COL.

MEZIAT (WHO WAS PRESENT ALONG WITH COL. SERGIO AND THE TAPE RECORDER) FOR AN EXPLANATION. HE REPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT THE BOOKS COULD BE READ SOON. I SAID I HOPED SO AND WOULD CHECK AGAIN TOMORROW. I ALSO REQUESTED THAT MORRIS BE GIVEN A BED IN HIS CELL.

2. FOLLOWING MY READING OF STATE 220210 TO MORRIS RE THE NOTIFICATION OF HIS PARENTS AND THEIR REPLY, MORRIS EXPRESSED HIS DEEP GRATITUDE FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S ACTIONS ON HIS BEHALF.

3. MORRIS SAID THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE LAST THURSDAY HE HAD RECEIVED A THREAT FROM ONE OF HIS JAILERS THAT IF HE COMPLAINED ANY MORE TO "THE CONSUL" HE WOULD BE HANDCUFFED TO THE CELL DOOR AGAIN. I ASKED COL. MEZIAT TO CHECK INTO THE MATTER.

4. HE HAD NOT BEEN INTERROGATED SINCE I LAST SAW HIM BUT WAS TOLD ONE HOUR EARLIER THAT THE QUESTIONING WOULD BEGIN AFTER I LEFT. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN HARASSED SOMEWHAT LAST NIGHT, HAD HIS SINGLE AIR VENT CLOSED IN HIS CELL, THEN WAS AWAKENED ABOUT MIDNIGHT WITH BANGING ON DOOR.

5. MORRIS SAID, IN CONNECTION WITH HIS INJURIES, THAT HE HAD BEEN RECEIVING DAILY MESSAGES OF THE BRUISES ON HIS BACK SIDE WITH A SPECIAL SALVE. ALSO HE WAS BEING GIVEN PILLS OF THE SAME BRAND AS THE SALVE TO "DRY UP THE BRUISES". THE MEDICATED MESSAGES HAD BEEN GOING ON SINCE LAST FRIDAY (OCT 4) NIGHT, HE SAID. I GENTLY SCOLDED HIM FOR NOT HAVING INFORMED ME OF THIS BEFORE. I SAID OUR UTMOST CONCERN WAS FOR HIS WELFARE, HE MUST TELL ME ABOUT ANY AND ALL SUCH TREATMENT IN THE FUTURE. HE SAID HE HAD SIMPLY FORGOTTEN, BUT WOULD KEEP ME INFORMED.

6. I ASKED TO SEE HIS WRISTS UP CLOSE; THE RIGHT WRIST IS LOOKING NORMAL WITH ONLY SLIGHT RED MARKS VISIBLE WHERE THE ABRASIONS WERE EARLIER; THE LEFT WRIST HAS NOT HEALED SO RAPIDLY AND TWO LASCERATIONS ARE STILL VERY VISIBLE. SOME SWELLING IS STILL APPARENT AND A LARGE LIGHT YELLOW BRUISE HAS FORMED (NOT PREVIOUSLY OBSERVED) ON THE UNDERSIDE OF THE LEFT ARM EXTENDING FROM THE PALM TO ABOUT TEN INCHES UP THE ARM. HE SAID THAT HE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BRASIL 07693 081701Z

HAS NOTED IN RECENT DAYS THAT THE THUMB AND SOME FINGERS OF THE LEFT HAND HAVE NO FEELING AND THAT THE MOTOR RESPONSE OF BOTH HANDS IS RATHER SLUGGISH. HE SAID THE DOCTOR WHO HAD EARLIER EXAMINED HIM ASSURED HIM THAT ONLY THE NERVES HAD BEEN PINCHED AND THAT FEELING AND MOVEMENT WOULD EVENTUALLY RETURN. HE SAID THE BRUISES ON HIS BACK SIDE WERE GETTING BETTER AND GRADUALLY DISAPPEARING DUE TO THE DAILY MESSAGES.

7. I TOLD HIM ABOUT THE NEWS STORIES IN THE OCT 6 JORNAL DO BRASIL AND ESTADO DE SAO PAULO WHICH HAD REPORTED HE HAD GIVEN DEPOSITION THAT HE WAS A CIA AGENT. HE LAUGHED, SAYING THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED THAT QUESTIONS PERIODICALLY BY HIS INTERROGATORS AND HAD DENIED IT CATEGORICALLY EVERY TIME. AND FURTHERMORE, HE SAID, LOOKING INTO THE TAPE RECORDER, "I WANT TO DENY IT FLATLY ONCE MORE FOR THE RECORD".

8. PRESSING HIM TO GIVE ME SOME ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON HIS MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT OF SEPT 27 HE SAID THAT HE HIT THE SIDE OF A TURNING CAR WITH THE FRONT OF HIS MOTORCYCLE, AFTER HE HAD ALMOST COME TO A FULL STOP. HE SAID THAT HE FELL OVER ON HIS RIGHT SIDE WITH THE CYCLE AND SUSTAINED, TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE, ONLY A SMALL BURN MARK ON HIS RIGHT KNEE. HE HAD NOTICED NO OTHER BRUISES OR CUTS WHICH HAD RESULTED FROM THE ACCIDENT.

9. I ALSO INSISTED ON MORE DETAILS AS TO WHY HE BELIEVED HE WAS BEING HELD AT FOURTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS. HE SAID THAT BECAUSE HE HAD LIVED IN RECIFE FOR MANY YEARS, HE KNEW THE STREETS EXCEPTIONALLY WELL. EACH DAY, JUST PRIOR TO OUR INTERVIEW, HE SAID HE WAS TAKEN FROM HIS CELL, TOLD TO GET DRESSED, IS BLINDFOLDED, AND PLACED IN A VEHICLE. HE THEN BEGAN TO TELL ME PRECISELY WHICH STREETS THE VEHICLE TURNED ON, DEPARTING FROM THE BACK GATE OF THE HEADQUARTERS AND WINDING ITS WAY BACK TO THE STARTING POINT. HE PROCEEDED TO DEMONSTRATE THAT BY COUNTING THE NUMBER OF RIGHT AND LEFT TURNS THE VEHICLE TOOK, ONE WHO KNEW THE STREETS COULD DEDUCE THAT ONE HAD RETURNED TO THE POINT OF DEPARTURE. I ASKED THEN IF HE BELIEVED THAT HIS DETENTION CELL, WHERE HE HAD BEEN SINCE THE MORNING OF SEPT 30, WAS LOCATED AT THE FOURTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS. HE REPLIED THAT HE WAS CERTAIN IT WAS.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 BRASIL 07693 081701Z

10. AT THE END OF FIFTEEN MINUTES, OUR INTERVIEW ENDED AND I LEFT MORRIS IN WHAT APPEARED TO BE GOOD SPIRITS.

BROWN
UNQUOTE
CRIMMINS

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NNN

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